Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of a patient with a neurodegenerative disease associated with a receptor having a cysteine residue or other cysteine containing protein that is modified by a thiol reactive agent to inhibit its function, ~~or at risk therefor,~~ wherein said neurodegenerative disease is Huntington's disease, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's Disease or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of said thiol reactive agent to treat said neurodegenerative disease, wherein said thiol reactive agent is selected from the group consisting of nitric oxide ("NO"), NO donors, avicins, arsenicals, thiol arsenides, selenium compounds, gold compounds, maleimides, formamides, nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide, hydrogen peroxide, hydrogen sulfide, thiol reactive aldehydes, quinones, sulfides, lactones and S-sulfo derivatives, provided that when the thiol reactive agent is NO or an NO donor, the NO or NO donor is ethyl nitrite, S-nitrosoglutathione, nitrosoallopurinol or Angeli's salt and wherein said NO or NO donor is administered in an amount which provides a submicromolar concentration of NO or NO donor in the patient's blood.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Original) The method of claim 33 where the receptor is a cysteine protease and where the treatment would affect an allosteric cysteine but not other cysteine.

37. (Original) The method of claim 33 where the receptor is in a nerve cell.

38-44. (Cancelled)